Centre No.			Paper Reference				Surname	Initial(s)			
Candidate No.			6	3	9	4	/	0	2	Signature	

Paper Reference(s)

6394/02 Edexcel GCE English Literature

Advanced

Unit 4b

Modern Prose

Friday 18 January 2008 – Morning

Time: 1 hour

Materials required for examination	Items included with question papers				
Set text	Nil				

Instructions	to	Candidates

In the boxes above, write your centre number, candidate number, your surname, initial(s) and signature.

Answer ONE question.

Indicate which question you are answering by marking the box (\boxtimes). If you change your mind, put a line through the box (\boxtimes) and then indicate your new question with a cross (\boxtimes).

Write your answer in the space provided in this question paper.

Information for Candidates

This unit targets the following Assessment Objectives: AO1 and AO4 and also assesses AO3 and AO5ii. They are listed at the end of this paper.

You are required to have the text you have studied with you in the examination. You are expected to make close reference to the text and to quote from it as appropriate, but you are advised not to quote from it at length, and you should not refer the examiners simply to page or line references.

The total mark for this paper is 50. All questions carry equal marks.

Dictionaries may **not** be used in this examination.

Advice to Candidates

You are reminded of the importance of clear English and careful presentation in your answer.

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Examiner's use only

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Team Leader's use only

Question Leave Blank

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This unit targets the following Assessment Objectives: AO1 and AO4 and also assesses AO3 and AO5ii.

Answer ONE question.

1. de BERNIÈRES: Captain Corelli's Mandolin (Minerva or Vintage)

Either:

(a) 'Eccentric they were seen to be. The empty-headed gossips of the village transformed Drosoula, with her extreme ugliness, and Pelagia, with her fearless lack of deference to men, into a pair of harridans and witches.'

In the light of this quotation, what is your response to de Bernières's presentation of women in the society depicted in the novel?

In your answer you should include an examination of Chapter 64 'Antonia' and at least one other appropriate passage of your choice.

Or:

(b) 'Readers have criticised the post-war chapters of the novel for their anti-communism and excessive length. They are, however, essential to de Bernières's need to depict changes in society rather than the idea of history repeating itself.'

In the light of this comment, what is your response to the ways in which change is presented by de Bernières in *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*?

In your answer you should include an examination of **at least two** appropriate passages of your choice.

Q1

(Total 50 marks)

2. ATWOOD: Alias Grace (Virago)

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Either:

(a) 'Mrs Moodie's unreliability in her book about Grace demonstrates the need to "embroider" a good story.'

In the light of this comment, what is your response to the 'embroidered' versions of Grace's story as presented by Margaret Atwood in her novel?

In your answer you should include an examination of the central part of Chapter 21, from 'Reverend Verringer's housekeeper greets him with a disapproving nod.' up to '"Let us go to welcome them, shall we?" '(pages 218–224) and **at least one other** appropriate passage of your choice.

Or:

(b) 'The cheapness of life is just one of the shocking issues that separate the modern reader from the nineteenth-century world presented in the novel.'

In the light of this assertion, what is your response as a modern reader to the ways in which Atwood presents nineteenth-century attitudes to 'the cheapness of life' in *Alias Grace*?

In your answer you should include an examination of **at least two** appropriate passages of your choice.

Q2

(Total 50 marks)

3. MURDOCH: *The Bell* (Vintage)

Either:

(a) 'The relationship between art, morality and love is the central theme of *The Bell*.'

Do you agree that Murdoch presents this 'relationship' as her central concern in the novel?

You should include in your answer an examination of the latter part of Chapter 14, from 'Dora hadn't especially intended to visit the National Gallery....' (page 189), Chapter 15 and **at least one other** appropriate passage of your choice.

Or:

(b) 'Toby emerges from his experiences at Imber relatively unscathed despite being torn between male and female love on the one hand and between the erotic and the religious on the other.'

In the light of this critical remark, what is your response to Murdoch's diverse presentation of Toby and his experiences in *The Bell*.

In your answer you should include an examination of **at least two** appropriate passages of your choice.

Q3

(Total 50 marks)



3

4. FORSTER: Howards End (Penguin)

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Either:

(a) Leonard's comment to Helen 'May I take it, Miss Schlegel, that you and I are both the sort that say "I"?' and her response that 'All presentable people say "I". 'remind the reader of what connects him to the Schlegel sisters.

In the light of this assertion, what is your response to how Forster presents what connects Leonard and the Schlegel sisters?

In your answer you should include an examination of Chapter XXVII and **at least one other** appropriate passage of your choice.

Or:

(b) Mrs Wilcox comments: "Howards End was nearly pulled down once. It would have killed me."

In the light of this quotation, how appropriate is it to see Howards End, the house, as a symbol of human dignity and endurance, even after Mrs Wilcox's early death?

In your answer you should include an examination of **at least two** appropriate passages of your choice.

Q4

(Total 50 marks)

5. ACHEBE: Things Fall Apart (Heinemann)

Either:

(a) 'Achebe presents Ibo society as one controlled by its attitudes to wealth, status, property and ritual.'

In the light of this comment, what is your response to the ways in which these attitudes are presented in *Things Fall Apart*?

In your answer you should include an examination of Chapter Three and **at least one other** appropriate passage of your choice.

Or:

(b) 'The poem from which Achebe takes his title, foresees an ominous period of change when "Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world".'

In the light of this, what is your response to Achebe's presentation of the changes in Ibo society in *Things Fall Apart*?

In your answer you should refer to at least two appropriate passages of your choice.

Q5

(Total 50 marks)



Indicate which question you are answering by marking the box (⋈). If you change your mind, put a line through the box (⋈) and then indicate your new question with a cross (⋈).							
Chosen question number:	Question 1(a)	×	Question 1(b)	\boxtimes			
	Question 2(a)	X	Question 2(b)	\boxtimes			
	Question 3(a)	X	Question 3(b)				
	Question 4(a)	\times	Question 4(b)	\boxtimes			
	Question 5(a)	X	Question 5(b)	\boxtimes			

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	TOTAL FOR PAPER: 50 MARKS		
	END		
	ment Objectives for Unit 4b (6394/02): Modern Prose:		
AO1	communicate clearly the knowledge, understanding and insight appropriate to literary study, using appropriate terminology and accurate and coherent written expression		
AO4	articulate independent opinions and judgements, informed by different interpretations of literary texts by other readers		
AO3	show detailed understanding of the ways in which writers' choices of form, structure and language shape meanings		
AO5ii	evaluate the significance of cultural, historical and other contextual influences on literary texts and study.		